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slaves to the king. Under these circumstances, it is pleasing to remark the gradual but sure advance of El Islam, the Perfect Cure for the disorders which rule the land. Amongst my eight hammock-bearers I found two Moslems.

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XXVII.—*On the Principles of Ethnology.* By T. S. PRIDEAUX, Esq.

(Read November 22, 1864.)

ETHNOLOGY to become a science must be based on induction. A great quantity of facts relating to the physical and mental differences presented by mankind have, of late years, been collected by the praiseworthy industry of observers. Notwithstanding, however, the store of building materials accumulated and lying ready to the hand of the workman, we have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that the foundation stone of a durable and scientific edifice, embodying the laws of Ethnology, has yet to be laid.

The want of precision in language, the discordance in opinion, the absence of order and method, or any recognised starting point, so different from the regular and progressive growth of a system of ideas that has once attained a firm basis of truth to rest upon, all proclaim that in ethnology the reign of chaos is not yet ended.

Where so many industrious and intelligent workers have laboured so long and effected so little of a durable character, surely it ought to excite a misgiving that their efforts have not been made in the right direction, and that the system on which inquiries have been prosecuted, must have been an erroneous one. That such has been the case has long been my deliberate conviction, and the object of this paper is to endeavour to point out the errors in method which have so paralysed the progress of ethnology as a science, and to suggest a remedy.

No science is possible without precision of language. Proper names used as the representatives of certain classes of objects being purely arbitrary sounds, propositions in which they occur are, and can be, intelligible only in proportion to the precision of the ideas associated with them. However clear may be the perceptions of the individual who enunciates a fact—however grammatical his language, the statement is, to the hearer, absolutely meaningless, more or less vague, or clear and definite in exact ratio to the coincidence in the ideas attached to the same terms

by each. If these differ, discussion may be endless, but agreement must be unattainable.

The science of mathematics, especially geometry, offers to our view an admirable illustration of the advantages of accuracy of language to the advancement of science. Here we find universal agreement and steady progress from the days of the Greeks to our own, because the terms used convey exact ideas to all, so that misapprehension is impossible. Did one geometer understand by the term right angle, an angle of  $85^{\circ}$ , whilst another used it to describe an angle of  $95^{\circ}$ , what would become of the boasted certainty and exactitude of mathematics? Yet this difference of  $10^{\circ}$  in the meaning attached to the same appellation does but faintly shadow forth the vagueness, or, more properly, the confusion, which prevails amongst ethnologists on the signification of one and the same term. Does anyone doubt this, let him read the different and differing definitions of Celt and Saxon to be found in ethnological literature.

Does a geologist speak to me of nummulites, ammonites, or trilobites, he shows me the creature and I clearly apprehend his statements. Does he talk of oolite, he points to a specimen in his cabinet, and tells me the formation occurs below the "green sand," and above the "lias." Let me visit half a dozen in succession, and I find their statements all agree. Here, then, I find certainty, a science with established laws, and a firm basis ready to receive additions to the superstructure; but where are the established laws of ethnology, is there any one doctrine held in common by ethnologists, any two facts admitted to be correlated? Surely a method must be at fault which leads to such unsatisfactory results.

If we desire a different fate to attend our own labours, we must banish preconceived opinions, which are the bane of progress, and shake hands with the past. Instead of commencing with assumptions, and bending and twisting facts to fit into our prejudices, we must lay aside the old-fashioned spectacles which have so long blinded our vision, and look at facts as nature presents them. Let us once emancipate ourselves from our coloured glasses, and assuredly we shall feel surprised as we contemplate the diversified hues of nature, that we should so long have seen nothing but red, yellow, and blue.

On what foundations rest the orthodox ethnological doctrines of the day regarding the populations of Western Europe? Are they inductions from observation? Certainly not; their warmest supporters could not venture to allege any such claim in their behalf. What, then, is their origin? An attempt to interpret the phenomena these populations exhibit by the narratives and traditions of the historical period. Or, in other words, many having

probably existed many hundreds of thousands of years, the variety of features he presents, are treated as the outgrowth of the last twenty centuries. The statement reads like a jest, but is literally a simple enunciation of facts. The historic period opens with Western Europe, peopled with so called Celts; these are conjectured to have expelled or overlaid an Iberian race, of which the Basques are supposed to be a remnant, and to have been in their turn overwhelmed by a Teutonic population, which in some districts expelled, and in others amalgamated with the conquered. According to these notions, the present inhabitants should be divisible into three, and only three, strongly-marked groups, by selecting specimens from those districts where the least commingling of blood has taken place. Now, we affirm that facts are completely at variance with these suppositions, and to facts we appeal. Celt and Saxon are to us mere sounds of vague and uncertain meaning, and the idea of going to history for instruction in ethnology—a parallel to the notion that once prevailed of taking the Noahchian deluge as the great exponent of geology; and may we not say that it has proved, as in the nature of things it could not help proving, equally barren of results.

The task that lies before us to do, is to study what exists at the present day—not to lose ourselves in groping in the darkness of the past, to look around us and learn to recognise the numerous types offered by nature on all sides to our view. We shall find plenty so characteristically distinct as to be easily identified—possessing, so to speak, an individuality, a physiognomy of their own.

Amidst all the amalgamation of races that has taken place, nothing is more certain than that types of great antiquity are always present in considerable numbers and very tolerable purity amongst our population. If obliterated in one generation, they recur in a subsequent one, according to laws not yet ascertained. No indiscriminate blending of blood seems to take place, producing a homogeneous offspring according to the numerical proportions or relative vital force of the component races, and extinguishing the recurrence of the original types. We cannot take upon ourselves to say that this is never effected in a long period of time in a mixed race, subjected to the same climatic conditions; but we have abundant evidence to show that throughout many centuries, the condition of mixed races remains (if I may be allowed to use the term) one of unstable equilibrium, rather transient than permanent, and that without any recurrence to the original stock, that stock asserts its persistent vitality, by the evolution of individuals stamped with all its distinctive characters.

I remember seeing one case of a family of ten children. The nine eldest were small of stature with dark hair, eyes, and com-

plexion, small features, and a head with a long coronal region, causing the forehead to be perpendicular. The youngest, on the contrary, was tall and stout, with reddish hair, blue eyes, and very fair complexion, the forehead retreating, and the profile of the head nearly such as might be produced by a pair of compasses centred in the orifice of the ear. This type, though so strikingly contrasting with the rest of that generation, was not unknown in the family, but was recognised as a most exact reproduction of the features and appearance of a great uncle. I am acquainted with a descendant of one of Shakespeare's brothers, whose head presents many points of resemblance to the great poet's. His father was characterised by such literary taste and ability that, though in comparatively humble circumstances, he taught himself to read Latin and Greek fluently; and there is a collection of portraits of my own family in existence, reaching back some three hundred years, many of which are said to bear a striking resemblance to the existing members of the family.

The first task, then, I repeat, which lies before the ethnologist to do, in order to conquer a solid basis for his science, is the recognition and identification of the existing types by which he is surrounded. This accomplished, let him next, by studying the phenomena presented by the living populations, his contemporaries, what changes are being effected, and what evolutions are in progress—endeavour to determine the value and signification of the types in his possession, or, in other words, what laws have governed their origin, and presided over their development. Let him only succeed in this task, and it is not too much to say that he will hold in his hand an outline of the general principles on which the laws of ethnology are based, and possess a key which will furnish him with a solution of most of its enigmas.

As English ethnologists, our own province is the British Isles. If, then, we lay aside all dogmas and preconceived opinions, and open our eyes and look about us, what are the facts that nature presents to our view. Instead of three types of humanity I behold nearer a hundred, all cognisable and separable from each other by well-defined lines of demarcation. Some may be more nearly related than others, doubtless are so; but with this question we have, at the outset, nothing to do, the degrees of these relationships being matter for subsequent study and determination. Our province as naturalists is first, to learn to discriminate all those differences of regular occurrence which are sufficient for the identification of individuals as members of one common group, for science is extended, in proportion as our knowledge of individuals becomes more precise.

Here the question presents itself, What constitutes a type, or how is it to be recognised? To give an adequate reply in words

is just as impossible as adequately to portray in language the essence of the Jewish physiognomy. Types must be seen to be understood,—if not the living specimens, at least life-like portraitures. I am inclined to say that all persons whose expression one and the same caricature forcibly recalls, though in a more or less exaggerated manner, belong fundamentally to the same type. These different countenances will be found to be associated with different average developments of other portions of the body, as, for instance, different proportions of the osseous and muscular systems—of the head, chest and abdomen—of relative breadth of chest and pelvis, of length of neck, of limbs, and trunk—of arms and legs, of arm to fore arm and thigh to leg—of hands and feet, with considerable differences in the height of the sexes; in some types the stature of the male being greatly above that of the female—in others the stature of the two sexes being nearly similar. It is almost superfluous to say that the colour and texture of the skin, and of the hair and beard, the gait, the gestures, the general carriage of the body, indeed the character of all the motions are equally peculiar and characteristic. It has happened to me so repeatedly, where the back view of an individual has strongly reminded me of the figure of an acquaintance of well-marked and somewhat uncommon type, to find, upon obtaining the requisite position, a curiously striking resemblance in all the general features of the physiognomy, that I have not only long ceased to feel surprised at such a result, but I have come to anticipate it.

I will not now enter upon an examination of the seductive question of the probable origin of these types, and their present signification, but content myself with repeating my conviction of their great antiquity and enduring character; in confirmation of which view I will mention a few facts that have come under my own observation.

For six years I had been familiar with, and noted the countenance of an individual who exhibited in a marked degree the features of a peculiar type. His children did not at all resemble him, and he stood alone, photographed in my memory as an isolated specimen of a race of which I had seen no second example. During the Russian war, I went to the Baltic in an English frigate. In going through the Little Belt we were boarded by a Danish pilot-boat. In the first Danish sailor who stepped on the frigate's deck I beheld the exact counterpart of the individual whose physiognomy I had noted so long. I started with surprise, and it was only after a close scrutiny that in the somewhat more weather-beaten countenance caused by a seafaring life, I could recognise any difference between the two faces. None of the rest of the boat's-crew possessed the same physiognomy but after seeing the Danish troops at Kiel, I had no difficulty in tracing its

affinity with other Danish types. Now, as I gazed on this apparition, I confess the conviction grew strong within me that the forefathers of this Dane and this Englishman, some thousand years ago, probably dwelt in the same locality, and perhaps at some still more remote period, had one common ancestor.

Seen *en masse*, the slighter figure, shorter stature, and triangular visage, at once distinguished the Danish troops from the inhabitants of Kiel and the southern part of the Duchies. Of these I may remark that in no other part of the continent does so large a proportion of the population resemble English, and that nowhere else is the resemblance so close. The Swedes, inhabiting the islands of the Baltic, are, on the whole, a homogeneous population; the prevailing type is rather tall and slight, with fair complexion and flaxen hair. The same type is a very common one in England. At Dantzic particularly, in the Corn Exchange, I recognised two well marked types that I was quite familiar with in England, and I believe the individuals might have passed muster in Mark Lane as pretty well to do English corn dealers. Both types have dark hair and eyes, short, stout, bulky figures, but in one the head is square, in the other more elongated, in both the lower limbs are short, and the feet are particularly short and small. When I left the coast of the Baltic for the interior of Prussia, the recurrence of English types ceased, and in Berlin, where I stayed two days, I particularly noticed that I did not see one individual who reminded me of an Englishman; but upon reaching Brunswick and Hanover, an occasional English type began again to be met with.

In no other part of England that I have visited is the population so homogeneous as in South Wales. On my first visit I started from Gloucester by the mail at six o'clock on a February morning. Seated on the box I heard two Welshmen behind me keep up an incessant conversation in their own language, and as day dawned I turned to reconnoitre their physiognomy. At the first glance I recognised a peculiarity in the appearance of the eyelashes, influencing the expression of the eyes, with which I was not familiar. I afterwards found this peculiarity to be an attribute of the predominating type in the counties of Glamorgan and Brecknock, forming a large proportion of the population, and being probably the remnant of the ancient Silures. They are dark complexioned, often sallow. The men generally short with spare figures, hardly exceeding the women in size, and frequently with a restless furtive expression about the eyes. The English residents in the Principality with whom I conversed, were unanimous in attributing to them a treacherous disposition. They dwell much on the past, and keep in remembrance the members of the family lost by death, visiting their

graves, etc. A short time before my visit, the parents of an only son, comparatively poor people, had him buried in his Sunday clothes with his gold watch in his pocket.

The next numerous type, are in physical appearance as great a contrast as can well be imagined ; very fair, with light auburn or red hair, large full eyes, rather short, but stout-built and fleshy, head larger, more rectangular, rather low and flat, but coronal surface long and wide, zygomatic arch much less prominent. Another very well marked type, though considerably less numerous than either of the preceding, are dark complexioned, thick set and square built, with aquiline noses, short and wide faces, and somewhat Roman features. An equally well defined type, though still fewer in point of numbers, and of which I only succeeded in recognising the females, are dark complexioned, fine dark full eyes, small narrow and oval visage, moderately tall, slender figure, carriage and movements graceful, reminding one when seen carrying their water-pitchers on their heads of the women of the East. This type I recognised as one I was familiar with, as recurring in isolated specimens in England, though I had failed to detect how large and significant an addition to its individuality was contributed by the graceful carriage and easy motions of the body, till I saw the Welsh water-carriers.

There is a stratum of population sprinkled through Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, and Staffordshire, and having their headquarters apparently in the latter county, possessing bodies of enormous breadth and development, short limbs, very large square heads, short necks, fair complexion, and light hair inclined to curl. A large proportion of the inhabitants of Yorkshire consist of a fair light-haired race, of large stature, and prominent bright, light bluish-grey eyes, of which scarcely a single specimen is to be met with in the South of England. There also occurs in considerable numbers a race of middle height, stout, dark complexioned, though not sallow, but nut-brown and ruddy, dark brown hair and eyes, the latter having a peculiar kindly twinkle, which same type is found in the southern part of Devon, and the adjacent portion of Cornwall. In proof of the definite character of this type, I will relate an anecdote. Being one day waiting at the foot of the Speaker's Gallery in the House of Commons in company with three other gentlemen, we gradually got into familiar conversation. Addressing one of them, I said, "Excuse my making the observation, but I think you are a West country-man." To which he replied : "You are right ; but I am curious to know what you judge by ; for I came to London a boy, more than forty years ago, and have lived here ever since, and am not considered to have the least West country accent. But can you tell me what part I came from?" To which I answered, "Somewhere near the borders of Devon and Cornwall." "How extra-



ordinary," he exclaimed, "I was born in Cornwall, but within three miles of Devonshire." Another of the party now inquired if I could tell him what part he was a native of. I at once disclaimed any pretensions to such a power, except in a few exceptional cases, but confessed that by a singular coincidence, his was one, and that I should not be surprised to learn that he came from near Norwich. Upon which he informed us that he was born near John O'Groat's house. I replied that I never saw any one less like a Scotchman, and that let him be born where he might it was impossible he could be of Scotch descent. He appeared much surprised at the confident tone in which I spoke, and rejoined, "It is wonderful you can judge so correctly. It certainly is true, as I stated, that I was born near John O'Groat's house, but both my parents were natives of Norwich."

In Burgundy, a type is plentiful of fair, large-framed, bulky individuals, characterised by a remarkable fulness of the upper part of the face, the breadth at the zygoma seems carried forward into the malar bone, which, with the adjoining part of the super-maxillary, is unusually protuberant, giving not an angular but a rounded fulness to the cheeks below and outside the eyes. In Devonshire I have repeatedly met with scattered specimens of the same type.

Although the population of Ireland displays fewer types than that of England, a considerable variety is nevertheless to be met with, particularly in the South. In the neighbourhood of Killarney, for example, a peculiar light grey eye is plentiful, which I have never met with in England; so bright that it seems almost to emit light, and which, it is no exaggeration to say, as much surpasses the ordinary eye in brilliancy as a diamond does glass. Again, in Galway, a very marked dark-haired type is prevalent, having no affinity to the surrounding population, but almost foreign in appearance, with an expression which struck me as Syrian or Eastern. It occurred to me that it might be a strain of Moorish blood from Spain. I could greatly multiply these illustrations, but have probably brought forward enough to give as correct an indication of my meaning as can readily be conveyed without exhibiting to the eye individual specimens of the types, either living or pictorial.

The indispensable preliminary to all desirable progress—that without which no science of ethnology is possible—is to affix a definite meaning to the language we employ. This is impossible so long as we rest contented with defining, or, rather trying to define, physical distinctions by words. To attempt to introduce correct notions of physiognomical appearances to the mind by sounds, to the neglect of the natural avenue for ideas of this class, the sense of sight, must always prove abortive, inas-

much as the best verbal descriptions, will ever remain not merely unsatisfactory, but altogether insufficient and inadequate for the purpose. Hence, an urgent necessity exists for the formation of an ethnological museum of Types, the specimens of which might be disseminated amongst ethnologists by coloured engravings.

Such a museum should consist of full length figures, showing the proportions of different parts of the body, with the colour of the skin, hair, and eyes, with skulls and casts of viscera, particularly of the brain, the general configuration of which, together with the arrangement of its convolutions, is eminently worthy of study, and doubtless embodies an epitome of the individual. Nor should we forget to call the microscopist and the chemist to our aid, to give us the ultimate structure and chemical constituents of the principal anatomical systems and organs of the body. Each type should, if possible, be represented by full-length figures of at least one adult pair, and further illustrated by about a dozen sets of coloured photographs of the face and head, showing how the salient features of the type are preserved amidst those slight differences which characterise its individual members. Various ages also should be represented. Each individual should be photographed in not less than three positions. First, in complete profile; second, in the usual three-quarter face commonly chosen for portraits; and third, in full face. The first is the most important when a correct line of the outline of the head can be obtained, to facilitate which, the hair on the middle of the line may be shaved off, or, in default of this, laid down as close as possible to the head with pomatum or an elastic net.

Separate features should next be made the subject of study, analysed and assorted. We should possess classified sets of eyes, both with and without eyebrows, sets of noses, sets of lips with chin, collections of hair in shades, ticketed with the diameter and structure of each variety. By long contemplation of such groups it cannot be doubted but that our physiognomical perceptions would be greatly sharpened and extended. Useful therapeutical knowledge would also be acquired, for it is unquestionable that the diseases to which human beings are liable, and the influence of medicinal agents on the system, vary greatly with race.

As a provisional arrangement, till our knowledge enables us to adopt one founded on a more philosophical basis, I am inclined to think the types of the British Isles and Western Europe may be conveniently arranged into groups of three, as follows:—

Those with the nose, first, convex; second, concave; third, straight or intermediate. Each capable of being sub-divided into three, according as the features are, first, defined and sharply cut; second, fleshy and faintly outlined; third definition, inter-

mediate ; and capable of being again sub-divided into three, as the complexion is first, light ; second, dark ; third, intermediate.

When the great importance of such a Museum in a scientific, national, and political point of view is once recognised, I cannot believe we shall remain long without the necessary funds for its establishment and support, for surely the assemblage and identification of the varieties of man will hardly be neglected by a nation ready lavishly to defray the necessary outlay for forming museums to contain collections of animals and insects. We do not study the structure of the honeycomb to the exclusion of the insect architect ; and whilst the study not only of ancient and modern works of art, but even of the most trivial objects as antiquities, is pursued with avidity, surely we shall not continue to disregard that of the artificer, of whose civilisation they are the reflex, and whose mind we now certainly know, to be in this finite state of existence, linked with the development of its earthly tenement.

THE END.